IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1.   (Original) A system for managing resources and/or rights comprising:

a set of entities, each entity of the set having an association with at least one other entity of the set;and a set of resources and/or rights possessed or controlled by each entity,

wherein a first entity of the set of entities determines the subset of resources and/or rights possessed by the first entity that another entity may use or view details of, based on the minimum number of associations that exist between the first entity and the other entity.

2.   (Original) A system for managing resources and/or rights according to claim 1, where each resource or right in the set of resources and/or rights is allocated an association level, such that entities having a minimum number of associations that exist between the first entity and the other entity in excess of the association level can not use or view details of that resource or right.

3.   (Original) A system for managing resources and/or rights according to claim 2, where the association level can be set to a value representing that the corresponding resource or right is a private resource or right such that the other entities in the set of entities are unable to use or view details of that resource or right.

4.   (Currently amended) A system for managing resources and/or rights according to claim 2 ~~or claim 3~~, where the association level has a value representing that, for the other entity to be able to use or view the resources and/or rights of the first entity, the number of associations that exist between the first entity and the other entity does not exceed a selected number.

5.   (Currently amended) A system for managing resources and/or rights according to ~~any preceding claim~~ claim 1, where each entity in the set of entities has

an exclusion list, such that entities included on the exclusion list are not able to use or view the resources and/or rights of that entity irrespective of the number of associations that exist between that entity and the other entity.

6. (Original) A system of managing resources and/or rights according to claim 5, where each entity is not able to use or view the resources and/or rights of each entity included on their respective exclusion list irrespective of the number of associations that exist between that entity and the other entity.

7. (Currently amended) A system of managing resources and/or rights according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, where each association has a weighting value, and the other entity may use or view resources and/or rights of the first entity having an association level greater than or equal to the minimum sum of weighting values of the number of associations that exist between the first entity and the other entity.

8. (Currently amended) A system of managing resources and/or rights according to ~~any one of claims 2 to 6~~ claim 2, where each resource or right in the set or resources and/or rights has at least two association levels, has at least two weighting values, the other entity may use resources and/or rights of the first entity having a first association level greater than or equal to the minimum number of associations that exist between the first entity and the other entity and where the other entity may view resources and/or rights of the first entity having a second association level greater than or equal to the minimum number of associations that exist between the first entity and the other entity.

9. (Original) A system of managing resources and/or rights according to claim 8, where each association has at least two weighting values, and where the other entity may use or view resources and/or rights of the first entity having an association level greater than or equal to the minimum sum of first weighting values of the number of associations that exist between the first entity and the other entity and the first entity may use or view resources and/or rights of the other entity having an association level greater than or equal to the minimum sum of second weighting

values of the number of associations that exist between the other entity and the first entity.

10.   (Currently amended) A system of managing resources and/or rights according to claim 8 ~~or claim~~ 9, where each resource or right in the set of resources and/or rights has at least two association levels and where each association has to least two weighting values, the other entity may use resources and/or rights of the first entity having a first association level greater than or equal to the minimum sum of third weighting values of the number of associations that exist between the first entity and the other entity and where the other entity may view resources and/or rights of the first entity having a second association level greater than or equal to the minimum sum of fourth weighting values of the number of associations that exist between the first entity and the other entity.

11.   (Currently amended) A system of managing resources and/or rights according to ~~any one of claims 8 to 10~~ claim 8, where, if there is a direct association between the first entity and the other entity, the minimum sum of weighting values between the first entity and the other entity is equal to the weighting value allocated to the direct association.

12.   (Currently amended) A system of managing resources and/or rights according to ~~any one of claims 8 to 11~~ claim 8, where a first entity may exclude another entity from using or viewing its resources and/or rights by creating a direct relationship between the first entity and the other entity having a weighting value in excess of the maximum sum of weighting values the system traverses in determining the set of resources and/or rights that the other entity may use or view.

13.   (Currently amended) A system of managing resources and/or rights according to ~~any one of claims 8 to 12~~ claim 8, where a first entity may exclude another entity from using or viewing its resources and/or rights, where, on excluding the other entity, all other entities having an association with the first entity solely via the excluded other entity are also excluded from using or viewing the first entity's resources and/or rights.

14.   (Currently amended) A user interface for a system of managing resources and/or rights according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 13~~ claim 1, the user interface including:

means for displaying the resources and/or rights that a user can view or use; and

means for recording a request by the user to use a displayed resource or right.

15.   (Original) A user interface according to claim 14, including asset recording means to add a resource and/or right to the system, the asset recording means operable to receive a predetermined set of information and, using at least a portion of the predetermined set of information, reference a resource list to obtain a set of assets which substantially correspond to the portion of the predetermined set of information, the user thereafter able to choose the resource and/or right from the set of assets.

16.   (Currently amended) A user interface according to claim 14 ~~or claim 15~~, where the asset recording means operates to record a set of additional information in respect of each resource and/or right, a subset of the additional information not able to be viewed by other entities.

17.   (Currently amended) A user interface according to ~~any one of claims 14 to 16~~ claim 14, where the asset recording means includes a reader, the reader operable to read a unique identifier of a resource and referencing the unique identifier against a unique identifier database, obtain a predetermined set of details in respect of the resource.

18.   (Currently amended) A user interface according to ~~any one of claims 14 to 17~~ claim 14, where the asset recording means is a point of sale terminal incorporating a card reader, the card reader operable to read an identification card of a user and, with reference to identification information included on the identification card, record details of all resources and/or rights purchased with the system as resources and/or rights of the user.

19.   (Currently amended) A user interface according to ~~any one of claims 14 to 18~~ claim 14, where each resource includes condition information.

20.   (Currently amended) A user interface according to ~~any one of claims 14 to 19~~ claim 14, including a calendar, the calendar operable to display information as to the availability of a selected resource or right.

21.   (Original) A user interface according to claim 20, wherein the calendar is operable to display information as to the date, time and duration that a selected resource or right is available, or unavailable, to be used.

22.   (Currently amended) A user interface according to ~~any one of claims 14 to 21~~ claim 14, operable to send a series of reminders to an entity using a resource and/or right of the user following expiry of a loan period set by the entity and approved by the user, the series of reminders to continue until such time as the user records the resource and/or right as having been returned.

23.   (Currently amended) A user interface according to ~~any one of claims 14 to 22~~ claim 14, further including means for processing a request, confirmation and return by the user for the use of a displayed resource or right for a loan period.

24.   (Currently amended) A user interface according to ~~any one of claims 14 to 23~~ claim 14, including transfer means for transferring a resource and/or right between the user and an entity, the transfer means further operable to transfer any requests to use the resource and/or right along with the resource and/or right.

25.   (Currently amended) A user interface according to ~~any one of claims 14 to 24~~ claim 14, including invitation means for a first entity to invite a second entity to join the system, where, upon the second entity joining the system, a direct relationship is established between the first entity and the second entity.

26.   (Original) A user interface according to claim 25, where the invitation means checks to see whether the second entity has been invited to join the system

more than a predetermined number of times within a predetermined time period and, if so, does not send an invitation to the second entity to join the system.

27.   (Currently amended) A user interface according to ~~any one of claims 14 to 26~~ claim 14, including summarising means for displaying at least one of the following: the number of resources and/or rights presently loaned to the user; the number of resources and/or rights presently loaned by the user; the number of resources and/or rights possessed by the user; the number of resources and/or rights possessed by the user by location.

28.   (Original) A user interface according to claim 27, where the information displayed by the summarising means is further restricted to those resources and/or rights that fall within a category chosen by the user.

29.   (Currently amended) A user interface according to ~~any one of claims 14 to 28~~ claim 14, where the user may convey to at least one other entity an item that they wish to possess, control or borrow.

30.   (Currently amended) A user interface according to ~~any one of claims 14 to 29~~ claim 14, where the user interface includes a personal website of the user, the user interface further operable to display the personal website to other entities of the system.

31.   (Currently amended) A storage medium for software for implementing a system for managing resources and/or rights according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 13~~ claim 1.

32.   (Currently amended) A storage medium for software for implementing a user interface according to ~~any one of claims 14 to 30~~ claim 14.

33.   (Currently amended) A data processing apparatus having software for implementing a system for managing resources and/or rights according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 13~~ claim 1 stored in a memory thereof.

34. (Currently amended) A data processing apparatus having software for implementing a user interface according to ~~any one of claims 14 to 30~~ claim 14 stored in a memory thereof.

35. (Currently amended) A data processing apparatus according to claim 33 ~~or claim 34~~, where said data processing apparatus is a personal digital assistant, mobile phone, wireless application protocol enabled device or other communication device.

36. (Original) A method of managing resources and/or rights comprising the step of determining the subset of resources and/or rights of the set of resources and/or rights possessed by a first entity that another entity may use or view based on the minimum number of associations that exist between the first entity and the other entity.

37. (Original) A method of managing resources and/or rights according to claim 36, including the step of allocating an association level to each resource or right in the set of resources and/or right; and where the step of determining the subset of resources and/or rights that another entity may use or view includes only those resources and/or rights that have an association level equal to or higher than the minimum number of associations between the first entity and the other entity.

Claims 38 – 44 (cancelled)

MJM Do. No. 9778-031